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Vol. 19

January 8, 2002

No. 01

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PREFILED BILLS	02
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STATE DOCUMENTS

issuance of an instructional license to allow student divers or charter group divers without individual hobby licenses to collect artifacts.

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC WORKS

H.4382 DRIVER'S LICENSE EXPIRATION FOR PERSONS IN THE COUNTRY ON CERTAIN VISAS Rep. Limehouse

This bill provides that a driver's license issued to a person in this state pursuant to a student or work visa or to a dependent of that person expires the earlier date of either five years from its issuance, upon the expiration of the person's visa, or when the person's visa is revoked.

H.4383 ARTIFICIAL REEF SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES Rep. Limehouse

This bill provides for artificial reef special license plates and provides for the proceeds obtained from the issuance of these plates.

H.4388 LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS Rep. Altman

This bill provides that out-of-state residents are eligible for LIFE Scholarships if one of their parents or legal guardians died as a result of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

H.4389 REQUIREMENTS FOR DRAFTING LEGISLATION Rep. Martin

This bill requires that all legislation considered by the General Assembly must be drafted so that a person with a high school education can clearly understand it.

H.4391 STUDENT FEES CHARGED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS Rep. Townsend

This bill revises the manner in which certain fees may be charged to students by school districts, including a provision for exemption from payment for certain students.

H.4394 MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS AND WHOLESALERS Rep. Cooper

This bill provides that a motor vehicle dealer or wholesaler license holder may exhibit and sell motor vehicles on the premises of a private or governmental entity engaged in the liquidation of its motor vehicle assets.

H.4399 DRIVER'S LICENSE FEES FOR S.C. VETERANS Rep. J.R. Smith

This bill waives the driver's license fee for South Carolina veterans who are State residents and who present specified documentation of their military service.

H.4404 TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMMISSIONS Rep. Harrison

This bill revises the manner of employment and the employment relation of area technical college presidents.

H.4405 SCHOOL SOCCER Rep. Harrison

This bill provides that students who reside in and attend school in Richland County and who participate in interscholastic soccer or as a member of a school soccer

H.4432 "GOD BLESS AMERICA" SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES Rep. Owens

This bill provides for the issuance of and for the distribution of fees collected from special "God Bless America" license plates.

H.4434 DRIVER'S LICENSES Rep. Meacham-Richardson

This bill amends current law relating to obtaining and possessing a driver's license in this State, including but not limited to: revising the age requirements for licensing; requiring certain driver's training instruction; providing that applicants for certain driver's licenses must not have been convicted of a motor vehicle or seat belt violation during the six months preceding his application.

JUDICIARY

H.4384 PROHIBITING THE DETAINMENT OF PHYSICIANS EN ROUTE TO MEDICAL EMERGENCIES FOR CERTAIN TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

Rep. Knotts

This bill provides that a licensed physician who is en route to a medical emergency may not be delayed or detained for a traffic violation if the violation does not involve property damage or personal injury to another. The provision does not excuse or exempt the licensed physician from being charged and prosecuted for such a violation. The legislation creates a misdemeanor for falsely asserting that one is responding to a medical emergency and provides penalties for the offense.

H.4387 GAMBLING PROHIBITED ONBOARD VESSELS WITHIN THE STATE AND ITS TERRITORIAL WATERS Rep. Kirsh

This bill prohibits gambling conducted on a boat, ship, float, or vessel located within the state and its territorial waters.

H.4390 REMOVAL OF A PROBATE COURT PROCEEDING TO THE CIRCUIT COURT Rep. Scott

This bill provides that in order for a proceeding to be removed from probate court to the circuit court, the moving party must show, and the probate court must find, good cause for the removal. Under the bill, the probate court shall hold a hearing on a party's motion for removal and issue a written order making a specific factual finding that good cause for the removal exists or does not exist.

H.4395 USE OF A HOAX DEVICE OR REPLICA OF A DESTRUCTIVE DEVICE OR DETONATOR Rep. Limehouse

This bill increases penalties for the felony and misdemeanor offenses regarding the use of a hoax device or replica of a destructive device or detonator. The legislation includes under the felony offense a person who uses, aids, counsels, or conspires with another in the use of a hoax device or replica of a destructive device or detonator. The legislation includes under the misdemeanor offense a person who sells such a hoax device or replica.

H.4409 *DISPLAY OF TEN COMMANDMENTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE ON STATE PROPERTY* Rep. Coates

This bill provides that an object containing the words of the Ten Commandments may be displayed on real property owned by the State along with other documents of historical significance that have formed and influenced the United States legal or governmental system. The display of an object containing the words of the Ten Commandments must be in the same manner and appearance generally as other documents and objects displayed and must not be presented or displayed in any fashion that results in calling attention to it apart from the other displayed documents and objects.

H.4416 *OMNIBUS TERRORISM PROTECTION AND HOMELAND DEFENSE ACT OF 2002* Rep. Wilkins

This bill provides that it is unlawful to provide materials or resources in support of terrorist, terrorist organizations, or international terrorism, and provides a penalty for the offense. The bill revises provisions pertaining to the punishment for murder, so as to add violation of anti-terrorism laws to the list of statutory aggravating circumstances. The legislation establishes new offenses and penalties pertaining to nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons of mass destruction, biological agents or toxins, and computer viruses and other destructive computer programs. The legislation provides new penalties for perpetrating hoaxes and knowingly communicating false information regarding attacks. The bill requires state, county, and municipal law enforcement officers to make certain reports to the state law enforcement division and public health officials relating to biological agents, toxins, and delivery systems. The legislation provides for leaves of absence for public officers and employees trained by the American Red Cross for disaster response or emergency and to authorize certain state officers and employees to participate in American Red Cross disaster response or emergency relief at disaster or emergency sites within, or outside the State. The contains provisions that make it unlawful to conduct price gouging during a state of emergency with regard to the sale of essential commodities and the rental and lease of dwelling units, including motel or hotel units or other temporary lodging, or self-storage facilities. The bill establishes new offenses and penalties relating to the solicitation of contributions or the sale of goods or services for charitable purposes in connection with a declared state of emergency. The bill allows a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical technician employed by this state or a political subdivision of this state a credit against the state income tax in connection with duty in responding to a terrorist act. The bill allows a state individual income tax deduction for members of a State National Guard unit federalized or a reservist called to active duty for participation in "Operation Enduring Freedom" or "Operation Noble Eagle", or both. The legislation revises provisions regarding free admission to State parks and reduced rates for use of park campsites, so as to extend these privileges to police, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians and paramedics. The bill provides that in-state residents are eligible for LIFE Scholarships without the necessity of meeting any academic qualifications except for the necessity of being accepted under applicable admission requirements of the state institution they are to attend if one of their parents or legal guardians died as a result of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. The bill designates the eleventh day of September of each

H.4435 *ELIMINATION OF REQUIREMENT THAT A TORT CLAIM BE VERIFIED* Rep. Robinson

This bill revises South Carolina Tort Claims provisions so as to eliminate the requirement that a tort claim be verified.

LABOR, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

H.4398 *CREDITWORTHINESS AS A FACTOR IN AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE DECISIONS* Rep. Martin

This bill prohibits automobile insurers from using creditworthiness as a factor in refusing to issue or renew an automobile insurance policy or in determining policy premiums rates.

H.4410 *PROHIBITION ON BOTTLE ROCKET FIREWORKS* Rep. Lee

This bill removes bottle type rockets from the list of permissible fireworks thereby prohibiting their sale, transportation, and use in the State.

H.4414 *HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR MORBID OBESITY* Rep. Talley

This bill provides that if a health insurance issuer offers any health insurance coverage that does not provide coverage for the treatment of morbid obesity, it must offer an optional rider or endorsement to the insured or subscriber under an individual policy or a certificate holder or subscriber under a master policy, to provide for the treatment of morbid obesity through gastric bypass surgery or other methods recognized by the National Institutes of Health as being effective for long-term reversal of morbid obesity. Any additional cost to the insured or policyholder or certificate holder must be reasonably related to the benefits provided.

H.4430 *TECHNICAL CORRECTION FOR DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE CONTINUING EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD* Rep. Cato

This bill makes a technical correction to provisions pertaining to the advisory committee to the Department of Insurance that recommends continuing education courses for approval by the Department, by changing the name of an advisory board member from the South Carolina Association of Life Underwriters to its current name of the South Carolina Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors.

H.4433 *MORATORIUM ON AND STUDY OF CONSTRUCTION OF MERCHANT PLANTS* Rep. Cato

This joint resolution provides that the Public Service Commission shall conduct a study of the needs for the siting and construction of merchant plants in South Carolina. The study shall be submitted to the General Assembly not later than June 30, 2002. The joint resolution imposes a moratorium on the certification of any major utility facility not constructed by a utility currently serving retail customers in South Carolina and that does not have at least seventy-five percent of its generation capacity under a contract with a duration of at least ten years with

H.4401 SCHOOL TUITION TAX DEDUCTION Rep. Witherspoon

This bill allows taxpayers to deduct from individual taxable income, one hundred percent of the costs paid by the taxpayer for a dependent's preschool, kindergarten, primary, or secondary school tuition.

H.4417 GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS TO CERTAIN PERSONS Rep. Walker

This bill provides that public bodies or institutions which provide group insurance benefits to persons who are not the spouse, dependent, or relation of an insured employee may not receive any type of state funding.

H.4427 PERMITS FOR SUNDAY MINIBOTTLE SALES Rep. Merrill

This bill provides, retroactively, that the Department of Revenue (DOR) may issue permits for Sunday minibottle sales within the entire corporate limits of a municipality if such permits may be issued in any part of a municipality pursuant to a countywide referendum.

H.4428 SALES/LEASE TAX ON MOTOR VEHICLES Rep. Scott

This bill requires the Department of Revenue to cumulatively adjust the three hundred dollar maximum tax imposed on the sale or lease of motor vehicles and motorcycles in the manner that brackets are adjusted in *Internal Revenue Code* Section (1)(F).

The *Legislative Update* is on the Worldwide Web. Visit the South Carolina General Assembly Home Page (<http://www.scstatehouse.net>) and click on "*Publications*," then click on "*Legislative Update*." This will list all of the *Legislative Updates* by date. Click on the date you need.

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